

Mid-Minnesota Development Commission

Public Meeting Questions and Answers

The Mid-Minnesota Development Commission held its annual Area Transportation Improvement Program (ATIP) public information meeting as part of a regular Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) meeting on March 31, 2016. The meeting is intended to share the draft ATIP, or program of projects for MnDOT and local projects with federal aid for fiscal years 2017 through 2020 and answer any questions the public, stakeholders or partners may have. The following are a list of questions asked during the public information meeting along with responses from MnDOT—some responses given at the meeting and others were researched and given after the meeting.

Questions and Responses

Question: Does the 2017 highway 71 project include a left turn lane onto County Road 48 (road into the State Park)?

Response: Yes, there will be a left turn lane onto County Road 48 included with this project. There are several other turn lanes included with this project, and they are:

- i. County Road 27: adding a left turn lane*
- ii. County Road 10: adding a left turn lane and lengthening the existing right turn lane*
- iii. County Road 29: adding a left turn lane*
- iv. County Road 40: adding a left turn lane*
- v. County Road 48/148: adding a left turn lane*
- vi. Mn Hwy 9: adding a left turn lane*

We will also be adding a right turn lane and bypass land to the landfill access road.

Question: There was discussion around the safety of the MN highway 9 and MN highway 23 intersection in New London. Several other intersections in the area were also mentioned, such as County Road 40.

Response: We plan to conduct a safety assessment in this area. The assessment will begin after several others in the District wrap up. District 8 staff will be in contact with the City and County regarding the assessment.

Question: There was the discussion regarding the need for improvements on MN highway 15. The desire for passing lanes was brought up.

Response: District 8 staff is happy to meet with the Highway 15 Corridor Coalition. We will work with the Corridor Coalition members to set up a meeting.

Question: There was discussion related to completing the remaining two-lane segments of US highway 212 on either side of Cologne. Discussion ensued around the role of the Met Council in this project, understanding that the project would need to be in their plans as well as MnDOT's. Corridors of Commerce funding was brought up as a likely funding option for this corridor.

Response: None, group discussion.

Question: Can anything be done with the intersection of 153rd Street and MN highway 23 in the Nest Lake Area? The intersection backs up due to a lack of turning lanes on 153rd Street.

Response: We are looking into this further. There is existing curb and gutter in that intersection that would have to be moved. Additionally, alleviating the stacking problem may potentially raise other visibility issues for turning traffic. District staff will be working with the individual to determine what can be done in this situation.

Question: Can you tell us more about the design of the Kandiyohi County Road 5 Project?

Response: (From Kandiyohi County Engineer, Mel Odens) Once at that stage in the project development process, there will be a public information and comment process for that project—stay tuned for more information.

Question: There was discussion about the gap in the 10-ton network on MN highway 4 from Fairfax and Hector. Improving that section of highway 4 to 10 tons is desired.

Response: With funding geared toward the National Highway System (NHS), of which highway 4 is not on, the non-NHS routes will not see as much investment. The shift in funding is due to performance requirements on the NHS network. We know this area is an issue and will continue to keep it in mind, should funding become available.